

Youth Smoking & Cigarette Prices

- Economists suggest negative effect of price on current smoking.
- Few studies have examined smoking onset--with mixed results.
- Can economic factors stop the transition from experimenting to established smoking?
- Which are the most effective public policies for preventing nicotine addiction?

Price & Policy Measures

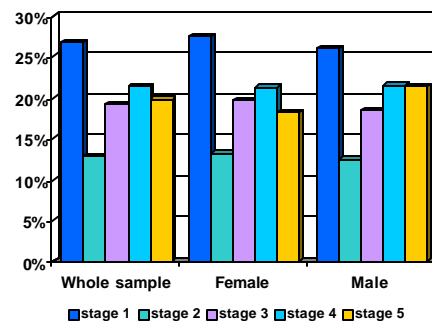
- Average Perceived Price (Survey)
- State Average Price (Tobacco Institute)
- Smoking Restrictions (State & Local)
- Youth Access Restrictions (Compliance)
- Preemption
- Smuggling

Stages of Smoking Uptake

- STAGE 1:** No experiment, no intention.
- STAGE 2:** No experiment, but intention to smoke in the future; or, experimented, but no intention to smoke in the future.
- STAGE 3:** Experimented and intention to smoke in the future; or, smoked, not recently, and no intention to smoke in the future.
- STAGE 4:** Smoked, not recently, but intention to smoke in the future; or smoked recently, but < 100 cigarettes.
- STAGE 5:** Smoked > 100 cigarettes

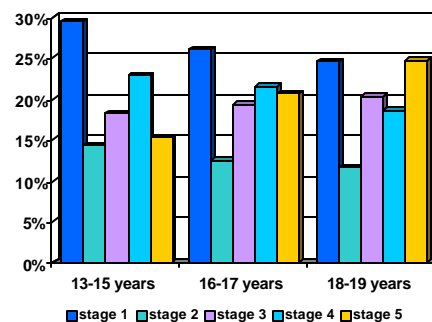
Stages of Smoking Uptake

For the Sample and by Genders



Stages of Smoking

Uptake by Age Groups



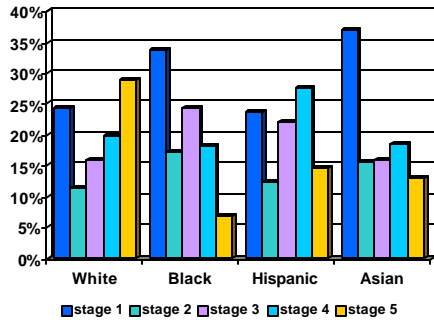
YOUTH SMOKING

UPTAKE PROGRESS: Price & Public Policy Effects

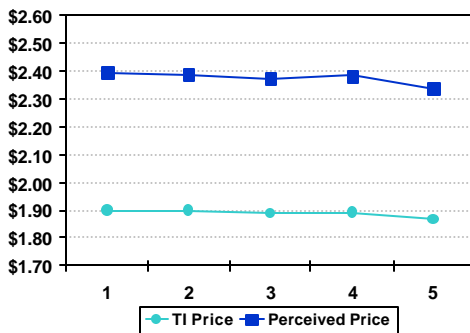
Hana Ross • Frank Chaloupka • Melanie Wakefield

Stages of Smoking

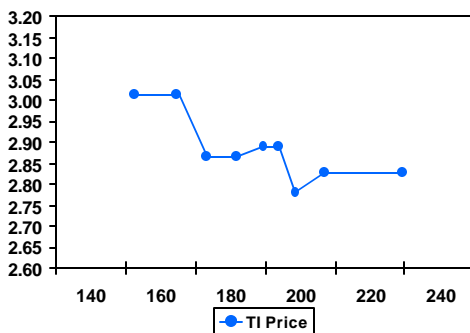
Uptake by Racial Groups



Average Prices & Uptake Stages



Cigarette Price & Uptake



Results

- Higher price slows progress towards cigarette addiction.
- Higher price progressively reduces odds of being in higher uptake stages.
- Youth access restrictions progressively reduce odds of being in higher uptake stages (social v. commercial sources).
- Preemption and smuggling increase odds of being in higher uptake stages.
- Smoking restrictions not significant.

Comments

- Dynamic Process v. Cross Section
- Price is Assumed to be Exogenous (State Sentiment v. Policy Variables; Perceived Price v. Average Price)
- Endogeneity of Public Policies
- Difficulty to Measure Public Policies